Yarra
Ranges
Council

COVID-19 PANDEMIC RECOVERY

ACTION PLAN

COMMUNITY & BUSINESS LED RECOVERY ACTION PLAN

Community and Business take the lead developing local ideas and solutions to local problems.

Strategic Link to Covid-19 Pandemic Recovery Framework Objective(s)	Purpose / Responsibilities	Initiative Detail
Social Recovery - Objective 1, 2, 3	Community Led Recovery Committees	Bringing together community members, groups and organisations, including small business, schools and clubs, to lead community conversations and community driven recovery initiatives. An area based approach - Urban, Valley, Hills, Upper Yarra is recommended. Local community, developing local solutions to local problems that empower communities to find solutions to local challenges building on local strengths towards outcomes that matter to them. COVID-19 Community led recovery activities can focus on wellbeing, connectedness, inclusion and resilience building. Funding to be a point of difference from our grants process Community will have many great ideas in how to go about doing this – trust they know their connections best. Genuine community led recovery – must contribute to building resilience

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Economic Recovery - Objective 1, 2, 3	Trader and Business Group Led Recovery	Develop and fund a program that encourages and supports business community led recovery to deliver economic outcomes including township activation/regeneration for Yarra Ranges townships:
		Funding of between $5k, $10k and $15k per township (based on size – to be determined)
		Supports creation of new as well as existing Trader/Township Groups to deliver economic outcomes for the township main streets
		Promotes and fosters the commercial, retail, tourism and placemaking interests of the township mainstreets and their community
		Ensure a business community led and inclusive process to develop and deliver funded initiatives
		Inform Council placemaking/infrastructure initiatives
Economic Recovery - Objective 1 Social Recovery - Objective 1, 2	Yarra Ranges Community Recovery Grants Program	This initiative is allocating additional funds to the Recovery Focussed Grants Program to support Community and Business groups implement activities that address recovery needs.

COMMUNITY & BUSINESS LED RECOVERY WITH COUNCIL SUPPORT

Community and Business lead recovery initiatives but with more hands on support from Council

Strategic Link to Covid-19 Pandemic Recovery Framework Objective(s)	Purpose / Responsibilities	Initiative Detail
Social Recovery - Objective 1 Economic Recovery - Objective 1	Yarra Ranges Emergency Relief Network	Build the capability and capacity of the Yarra Ranges Emergency Relief Network (training, evaluation, systems improvements and psychological first aid support) to enable them to build resilience and function more effectively. This is especially important given Yarra Ranges histroy of emergencies, the upcoming storm and fire seasons and also what we continue to anticipate through the Pandemic. The YRERN is critical to ensuring the local community has access to emergency relief food, accomodation, financial assistance, counselling etc
Social Recovery - Objective 1, 3 Economic Recovery - Objective 1, 2	Enhancing Yarra Ranges Partnership Agreements	Build the capacity of current and new Partnership Agreements with key community organisations. Particular focus on homelessness services (including additional assertive outreach), preventing family violence, health promotion, financial assistance programs, carers and older adults not connected to the digital world and community organisations that look to socially and culturally connect proactive spaces like sporting clubs and cultural groups where resilience is built and sustained.

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Economic Recovery - Objective 2, 3	Business Innovation Program/s	Establish business innovation opportunities that include business, education, NFP, community organisations and more, to explore new ideas, connections and different ways of working. Including the development of a Not for Profit/Social Enterprise Business support Program.
Social Recovery - Objective 1, 3 Economic Recovery - Objective 1, 2	Community Mental Health First Aid Training Program	Provide Mental Health first aid and resilience training programs (including suicide prevention) to community organisations (including sporting clubs) through the recovery period.
Social Recovery - Objective 1, 2, 3 Economic Recovery - Objective 1	Community Leaders Forum	Develop a Yarra Ranges wide community forum to support greater community networking and opportunities for community leaders to work together, learn from each other, recover and build resilience.
Social Recovery - Objective 1, 3	Homelessness Support	Develop an ongoing approach for those experiencing homelessness and/or those sleeping rough to access shower and laundry facilities.

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Social Recovery - Objective 1, 2, 3 **Economic Recovery - Objective 1, 2**	Be Kind program (Be Involved)	Market and promote the Be Kind Yarra Ranges Campaign to support community messages regarding Be Kind to Business, Be Kind to Others, Be Kind to Yourself. Through this campaign Council will continue to promote and support mental health, family violence and other critical community services and initiatives. To include a 'Be Involved' Initiative that supports residents to connect with local community organisations, volunteering, sporting clubs, community gardens, social walks etc
Social Recovery - Objective 2, 3	Festivals and Events Initiative	Under development.. Potentially enabling infrastructure for evevnts etc e.g. social distanced pods.. What can we provide to make it easy for community to get on with their events? Potential resourcing within the space for CC? Connect with Outdoor Dining project and other place activation activities
Social Recovery - Objective 2, 3	Creative Communities Initiative	Under development Looking to fill theh gap from the Grants Programs Local street performances? Voice Mob and Dance Here - (Not the Archies) - to be explored further.

COUNCIL TARGETED RECOVERY INITIATIVES

Council is driving a specific program or initiative as it's an identified area of need

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Economic Recovery - Objective 1, 2, 3	Telecommunications and Connection	Undertake a review in to Yarra Ranges NBN and telecommunications shortfall areas to underpin targeted advocacy. (supporting business, education, community connectedness, emergency needs)
Economic Recovery - Objective 1, 2, 3	Increase support for Business and Employment Program	Create new position/s in the Economic Development team to: • support tourism and business engagement activities • facilitate business development and networking program • facilitate the identification and matching of individual skill sets with emerging employment and learning opportunities (youth, mature age and vulnerable).
Economic Recovery - Objective 1, 2, 3	Investment Opportunities	Identify and attract investment that encourages business/tourism/social enterprise start-ups/incubation and major business/tourism relocation and expansion.